

POQUOSON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
May 3, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
Poquoson City Hall – Council Chambers

PRESENT: Donald F. Booth, Jr., Chairman
Alan E. Meetze, Vice Chairman
Timothy O. Trant, II, Director
Kristen Webber, Director

David Callis, Economic Development (ED) Director
Charity Gavaza, Economic Development (ED) Coordinator
Deborah L. Vest, Director of Community Development
D. Wayne Moore, City Attorney
Mary J. “Evie” Insley, Secretary

ABSENT: Henry L. Freeman, Director
Angela Ward-Costello, Director
Walter E. Apelt, Director

Chairman Booth called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers located at 500 City Hall Avenue.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Director Trant moved, seconded by Vice Chairman Meetze, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Recorded vote on the motion:

YES: Directors Trant, Webber, Meetze and Chairman Booth.

NO: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of New Director – Kristen Webber

Chairman Booth introduced Ms. Webber to the Commission. Commissioner Webber replaces P. Craig Moore who resigned effective April 1, 2016.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. *Election of Treasurer*

Chairman Booth stated that due to the resignation of Director Moore, the Treasurer position was open and he asked for nominations from the floor.

Director Trant moved, seconded by Vice Chairman Meetze, to elect Kristen Webber as EDA Treasurer. Recorded vote on the motion:

YES: Directors Trant, Meetze, Webber and Booth.

NO: None.

2. *EDA Retreat*

The consensus of the Directors at the April meeting was that an off-site retreat to review EDA goals, strategies, mission and vision statements, similar to the EDA retreat of 2012, was desired. Staff was requested to poll the City Manager, Mayor and Directors for an available date as early in June as possible to avoid summer vacations. The Community Recreation Building, 830 Poquoson Avenue, was chosen as the venue.

STAFF ACTIVITIES

1. David Callis, Economic Development Director, reported on the April 12th City Council Retreat which focused on the development of the EDA owned property on Victory Boulevard. He reported that discussion varied on the desirable and non-desirable developments for the "Gateway" property. Chairman Booth stated that he felt the discussion included not only the EDA owned parcels, but also the privately owned parcels on the north side of Victory Boulevard. He stated that there was more focus on what is not wanted, such as a public facility developed and supported with tax dollars.

2. D. Wayne Moore, City Attorney, stated that at the last City Council meeting, Council approved a Conditional Use Permit for Brad Drummond to utilize a storefront in the Wythe Creek Plaza Shopping Center for an Escape Room/Family Entertainment business which will give him access to his laser tag field in the Big Woods.

3. Mr. Callis reminded the Directors that at the last meeting Planner, Kevin Wyne had given a presentation on the Comprehensive Plan process and that an invitation to have a volunteer on the Steering Committee may be forthcoming. In response, Chairman Booth stated that Director Apelt had expressed interest in that position but due to a family emergency he was not able to commit right now. It was agreed that if Director Apelt was unable to serve, Director Trant would serve as the Authority representative.

4. Charity Gavaza, Economic Development (ED) Coordinator, reported that she had been going door-to-door to local businesses to promote the www.EnjoyVa.com website. She also

encouraged them to utilize this app to promote their business by providing specials and discount coupons through the site and gave each business a 5 ½ inch square sticker containing a QR Code for customers to scan at the store front. The City Attorney suggested that Zillow also be contacted to request a link for the Poquoson site on their website for additional coverage.

5. Ms. Gavaza stated that a ribbon cutting had been scheduled for the Bull Island Secret Lair Comic Book Store located over the Poquoson Pharmacy/Virginia Dare Salon on Wythe Creek Road and for the new Day Spa establishment which will be in the brick house beside the previous Victor's Restaurant. She stated that there will also be a ribbon cutting in the near future for an industrial contractor in the old Victor's location once it is remodeled. Lastly she announced that the Crab Cake House on Poquoson Avenue will be reopening within the month with the same menu and recipes as the previous restaurant.

The City Attorney informed the EDA that Bob Moses told him recently all the commercial offices in the Fountains of Poquoson, Phase I, have been rented.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Booth then adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:58 a.m.

Chairman

Secretary